
Title: Daren Athlorn Part 1

Author: A Quiet Historian

=====

The Life and Death of Daren Athlorn

Part 1

=====

The history of Daren Athlorn is a short but virtuous one. Daren was born and died within the sandstone walls of Trinsic, but we are getting ahead of ourselves. During his birth Daren's mother had died and he was left with only his father, a strict warrior who had failed at becoming a Paladin. Daren's father, Aiden Athlorn, was a great fighter with the sword and mace, his combat skills easily made him a viable subject for training as a Paladin, but his temper... his temper was fierce, and as quickly as it had begun, his training had ended. Failing to become a Paladin for the city, Aiden applied for the position of arms trainer. Aiden taught many would-be Paladins how to properly wield a sword and for this he was given a residence inside the city walls and enough coin to feed himself and his family.

The death of his wife had hit Aiden very hard and he had placed all the blame for it on his son Daren. Since the age of

four Daren was treated
no better then a slave,
his chores lasted the
entire day and he had
often been forced to
work with but a single
meal for the entire day.
Only twice in his youth
had Daren protested to
the treatment he had
received from his father,
the first time he was
but seven years old and
for his troubles locked in
a dark, damp cellar for a
week with very little
water to drink and only
crumbs to feed upon.
Many years had passed
since the first incident
occurred, this time Daren
was fifteen years old and
though his slave like work
had been put aside, he
was forced to train with
the sword and mace for
fifteen hours each day.
Aiden had wanted badly to
become a Paladin and
serve the glorious city of
Trinsic, so he was going
to live out his dream
through his son. Daren
greatly disliked his
training, he actually
preferred the slave like
work he had been forced
to do before to it, but
his father would not let
up. When Daren had
finally built up the
courage to stand up to
his father once again and
explain that he did not
wish to become a Paladin,
he was beaten to near
death. Throughout the
years Aiden's temper had
only gotten worse and
during the weeks of his
son's recovery he felt
little remorse for what
he had done, in his mind
his son had cost him
more then any amount of
gold could replace, he had
cost him the only person
he had truly loved, and

now he wanted to stop training? The thought was inconceivable to Aiden.

So it was that at the age of eighteen Daren had completed his training and was accepted as a Paladin of Trinsic. Aiden had never been happier with Daren in his life, Aiden was finally able to live his dream, all be it through his son. It was however only shortly after Daren had become a Paladin that the undead had begun their siege on the city of Trinsic. It was a dark time for Britannia, Lord British was using everything within his power to find a way to stop Minax as her generals continued with their attacks. Juo'nar, a fallen Paladin turned Lich was leading the siege on Trinsic. Juo'nar had kept constant pressure on any forces that attempted to free the city and Daren was the leader of the groups that did just that.

It had been weeks since the undead had taken control of the city, many citizens and guardsman alike had fled the city as fighting at the heart of the onslaught would have only meant death and gain nothing. Regrouping in a small camp outside the city, the Paladin Dupre had joined the escapees at the request of Lord British with orders to do all he could to free the city. It was only shortly after Dupre had joined them that Daren had been assigned a small force to penetrate the

walls of the city of Honor and free any that were still alive. Daren knew the risks of the mission, as did his men, but they had to follow orders. Entering the city was a task itself, the main entrance had been barricaded and the walls were guarded by undead minions of Juo'nar who required no rest. Five of the fourteen men assigned to Daren were skilled archers and he made use of them, ordering them to arm their crossbows with silver bolts, he dispatched the guards of one sector of the wall quickly and quietly, he then scaled the wall followed closely by his men. Upon viewing what had happened to the city, over the main hall of the city a temple had been constructed in honor of Lady Minax and the streets were filled with the undead. Daren was in shock, but he knew if he and his men stood a chance they would have to act quickly. Splitting up into teams of five, Daren and his men began searching buildings for survivors... but there were none to be found. Lord British had not yet put out his call to the citizens of the land to rise up and help free the city, so the only living beings within the city were Daren his fourteen men, and one reporter from the Britannian news service. After searching nearly twelve buildings the men had regrouped within a provisions shop to discuss their findings. When Daren heard that no survivors had been found in the twelve

buildings that had been
searched he had little
hope in finding anyone,
but his mission was to
search the entire city,
and he would do just
that.